THE WATERMILL CENTER

THE WATERMILL CENTER IS A LABORATORY FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES PROVIDING A GLOBAL COMMUNITY THE TIME, SPACE AND FREEDOM TO CREATE AND INSPIRE.

Founded in 1992 by avant-garde visionary and theater director Robert Wilson, The Watermill Center is an interdisciplinary laboratory for the arts and humanities situated on ten acres of Shinnecock ancestral territory on Long Island’s East End.

With an emphasis on creativity and collaboration, Watermill integrates contemporary arts practice with resources from the humanities, research from the sciences and inspiration from the visual and performing arts. The Center is unique within the global landscape of experimental artistic practice and regularly convenes the brightest minds from across disciplines to do, in Wilson’s words, “what no one else is doing.”
EACH YEAR, THE WATERMILL CENTER’S ARTIST PROGRAMS WELCOME OVER 145 ARTISTS FROM OVER 35 NATIONS TO LIVE AND WORK AT OUR EAST END CAMPUS.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER PROGRAM

Since 1992, The Watermill Center has hosted the International Summer Program, uniting over 80 artists from more than 25 countries for a five-week creative intensive.

The Summer Program provides a unique opportunity to work with established professionals in the international arts world; to forge an international community of artists from a broad range of experience levels and disciplines; and to investigate what it means to be a “global artist.”

THE ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Artist Residency Program is process based, without the expectation or promise of a final exhibition of the work or performance.

Watermill provides artists with time and space to focus on developing their practice in a communal environment that encourages experimentation. Artists-in-Residence share their creative process with the community through open rehearsals, workshops, and artist talks.

THE INGA MAREN OTTO FELLOWSHIP

Created with a generous gift from philanthropist Inga Maren Otto, the fellowship provides support for artists who have demonstrated exceptional creative ability in the arts.

The Inga Maren Otto Fellowship represents the depth and of Watermill’s commitment to supporting projects that integrate diverse viewpoints and that break from traditional forms of representation. This program is invitation-only and curated by Noah Khoshbin and Micah Bozeman.
THE BUILDING

Its flexible and multi-purpose interiors house formal and informal performance, studio and working spaces; an extensive reference library; kitchen/dining facilities and a dormitory.

THE COLLECTION

The Watermill Center Collection of art and artifacts is exhibited throughout the 20,000+ square foot building. The Study Library contains over 8,000 titles, available for artists to use for research in the development of their work.

THE GROUNDS & GARDENS

The Center is situated on over ten acres of wooded and landscaped grounds in a unique, rural setting. Artists in all our programs have access to work outdoors, surrounded by our lush forest and verdant gardens.
THE WATERMILL CENTER OFFERS SEVERAL ADAPTABLE WORKSPACES, EACH CURATED WITH A SELECTION OF ART AND ARTIFACTS TO SERVE AS INSPIRATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WORK.

THE SUMMER OFFICE
- desk space for 16
- ideal for visual artists

THE STUDY LIBRARY
- 8,000+ titles
- desk space for 8
- 2 Apple desktops

THE MAIN STUDIO
- large open studio
- ideal for performers
- marley available

THE WINTER OFFICE
- desk space for 2
- east facing windows
- ideal for visual artists

THE DONALD JUDD ROOM
- desk space for 2
- east facing windows
- ideal for writing + research

THE FRANK LLYOD WRIGHT ROOM
- desk space for 2
- east facing windows
- ideal for visual artists

THE DOUGLAS FIR ROOM
- large table for desk use
- ample wall space

THE WINDSOR BENCH ROOM
- small gallery space
- room for desk if needed
- east facing windows
THE WATERMILL CENTER OPERATES AS A LIVE/WORK SPACE, ALLOWING ARTISTS TO FULLY FOCUS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR WORK. OUR FACILITIES INCLUDE A KITCHEN, DORM SPACE, FORMAL DINING ROOM AND AN ON-SITE LAUNDRY.

THE KITCHEN
- fully equipped
- six-range gas stove and oven
- ice machine

THE DINING ROOM
- seating for 16-40

THE KNEE
- covered outdoor space
- river-stone flooring

THE DORMS
- 4 cubicles, 2 beds in each
- 2 full baths
- 1 work space
THE WATERMILL CENTER HAS OVER TEN ACRES OF MANICURED GROUNDS AND GARDENS, OFFERING ARTISTS THE UNIQUE CHANCE TO WORK OUTDOORS. WE ALSO HAVE A DETACHED WOOD-WORKING SHED AND STUDIO.

THE "SUMMER KITCHEN"
- large informal detached studio with sink
- ideal for visual artists

THE WOODSHED
- modest detached woodshop

THE AFRICA HOUSE
- small detached building
- grassy terrace
- large wildflower garden

THE WEST TERRACE
- expansive gravel lawn
- small sculpture garden

THE SOUTH LAWN
- large grass lawn
- ideal for performers or visual artists

THE LARGE PLATFORM
- large outdoor wooden stage
- ideal for performers

THE LONG PLATFORM
- narrow outdoor wooden stage
- ideal for performers

THE MEDITATION GARDEN
- small flower garden behind the woodshed
COMMUNAL LIVING

It is integral to Watermill’s programming that artists live and work with other Artists-in-Residence.

The Artist Residency Program and Inga Maren Otto Fellowship are communal programs, with anywhere from 3-15 artists on site at a given time.

The International Summer Program is focused on building an artistic community, with 60-100 artists on site during the course of the program.

RURAL SETTING

The Watermill Center is located in rural Long Island, and it is highly recommended that an artist or one of their collaborators have a valid driver’s license.

The Watermill Center is just a short car ride away from many activities, including the beach, local museums and galleries, as well as many shopping centers.

Grocery stores, supply shops, and recreational centers are not within walking distance from The Center. Taxi services, including Uber and Lyft, are available.
RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS

THE WATERMILL CENTER OFFERS ARTISTS THE UNIQUE CHANCE TO ENGAGE WITH OUR EXPANSIVE COLLECTION OF BOOKS, ART, ARTIFACTS AND ARCHIVES DURING THEIR STAY.

THE STUDY LIBRARY

The Study Library is comprised of approximately 8,000 titles, including bound volumes, exhibition catalogs and periodicals. The cultural diversity of subjects range from ancient art to modern and contemporary visual art, architecture, design, and performance. Special collection focal points include theater, dance, and music; tribal arts of Africa, the Americas, Asia and the South Pacific; and photography.

THE COLLECTION

The Watermill Collection is developed as a careful juxtaposition of diverse objects from different cultures and historical periods, emphatically transcending the distinction between high and low culture, between art and the everyday. Each work derives its significance through its dialogue with other objects in a carefully controlled arrangement. The Collection is an important thread in the fabric of life at The Center.

ROBERT WILSON ARCHIVES

Housed in our Manhattan office, the archives of Robert Wilson, The Byrd Hoffman Water Mill Foundation and The Watermill Center provide a unique paper, photographic, audio-visual and digital record of artistic and administrative activities, not to mention the arc of experimental performance and opera in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.
RESOURCES FOR ARTISTS

THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE FOR ARTISTS TO USE DURING THEIR STAY.
PLEASE NOTE, AS THERE IS NO ON-SITE TECHNICAL ASSISTANT, ARTISTS ARE EXPECTED TO MANAGE THEIR OWN TECHNICAL NEEDS.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUDIO EQUIPMENT</th>
<th>CAMERAS + PROJECTORS</th>
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<tr>
<td>82 Bass Module</td>
<td>Canon HD Video Camera XA10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behringer Xenyx 1202FX 12 Input 2 Bus Mixer</td>
<td>Canon Power Shot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behringer Xenyx 802 Premium 8-Input Mixer</td>
<td>JVC Digital Video Camera</td>
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<td>Fender PA System with speakers (x2)</td>
<td>Nikon 5000D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foster Audio Monitor 6301B (x2)</td>
<td>Panasonic Mini DV b (x2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLS Audio ES-58-S Microphone (not cordless) (x2)</td>
<td>Sphero Lux Light</td>
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<tr>
<td>H6 6/1 Input / 6-Track Portable Handy Recorder</td>
<td>Tripod’s (x2)</td>
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<td>HR624 MK2 Studio Monitor Speakers (x2)</td>
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<td>L1 Model 15 Cylindrical Radiator Loudspeaker Array</td>
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<td>L1 Model 15 Power Stand (120V)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mackie Micro Series 1402-VLZ 14 Ch. Mic/Line Mixer</td>
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<td>Shure SM58 Microphone (not cordless)</td>
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<td>SMD7 8 Vocal Microphone</td>
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<td>Sonos Wireless Sound System Playbar (x3)</td>
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<td>Sony Digital Audio/Video Control Center w/ 2 Speakers</td>
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<td>Sony Stereo Boombox and speakers</td>
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<td>Sony Xplode Boombox</td>
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<td>T4S ToneMatch Mixer</td>
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<td>Thump Active Reinforcement Loudspeaker TH12: (x1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WSW-2HJ Univ. Fur Windshield for Portable Recorder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yamaha Mixing Console MG102c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astera AX3 LightDrop (x2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oculus Quest VR Headset</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yamaha PSR-292 Electric Piano Keyboard</td>
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PROGRAM COSTS

For each of our Artist Programs, The Watermill Center provides artists with local transportation, housing accommodations, and workspace. All programs are offered free of cost.

The Inga Maren Otto Fellowship
Inga Maren Otto Fellows receive coverage for all costs, including travel, meals, and production expenses. Fellows are responsible for the cost of any personal items.

The International Summer Program
International Summer Program covers meals and approved production expenses. Artists are responsible for travel to and from Watermill, and any personal items.

The Artist Residency Program
Artists participating in the Artist Residency Program are responsible for living expenses such as food, travel to and from Watermill, production expenses, and any personal items.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All of our artist programs offer unique chances to engage the local community in the creative process through workshops, open studios and artist talks.

Discover Watermill Day

Our annual open house, Discover Watermill Day welcomes over 1,000 members of the Long Island community to freely explore The Watermill Center’s grounds and gardens. Featuring site-specific installations and performances, the afternoon provides a unique opportunity for the Hamptons community to meet artists from over 25 countries participating in The Watermill Center’s International Summer Program.

In Process @ The Watermill Center

In Process @ The Watermill Center is our ongoing series of open rehearsals, workshops, artist talks and studio visits that invite the community to engage with the work of our international Artists-in-Residence participating in our Artist Residency Program. The Watermill Center invites audiences of all ages and backgrounds to gain unique insight into the creative process of artists, cultivating an understanding of how artists from across the globe develop new work.

Education Programming

Artists-in-Residence at The Center are invited to engage with our diverse Education Programs. Through leading multi-disciplinary workshops and studio visits, The Watermill Center engages the Long Island community as artists in their own right. With an emphasis on the creative process, arts-professionals lead hands-on activities to inspire confidence through risk-taking and group activities with the local community of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IS THE WATERMILL CENTER HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE?

The building is generally accessible by wheelchair (with a few exceptions) and the building is equipped with an elevator. The Watermill Center grounds and gardens are not wheelchair friendly and include rough or rocky terrain that can be difficult to navigate.

Please contact us at visit@watermillcenter.org to discuss how we can best accommodate your visit to The Center!

WHAT ARE THE HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS?

For the Artist Residency Program and Fellowship, housing arrangements vary based on the needs and number of Artists-in-Residence. Most bedrooms are shared (2 beds) and all living spaces are communal. Artists coming alone will not be expected to share a bedroom. Artists coming with collaborators may be expected to share sleeping quarters.

Artists participating in the International Summer Program will be living in shared quarters in off-site housing in the surrounding neighborhood. All bedrooms are shared (2-3 beds) and all living spaces are communal.
WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE?

After breakfast, we meet as a group to go over the daily schedule, and assign roles for the day. We then all break off into groups and work until lunch. Following lunch, we go back to work until dinner. After dinner, everyone is free to hang out or return to their homes. Each day begins roughly around 8:30 AM with breakfast and ends around 9:30 PM after dinner. Daily activities include installation building, rehearsing performances, workshops with Robert Wilson, assisting with landscaping, and other odd jobs as needed.

WILL THERE BE ANY OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT MY WORK?

Yes. Artists are welcome to propose installation and performance ideas for both our Annual Summer Benefit and our open house, Discover Watermill Day. Please note that proposals are subject to review by Robert Wilson and our curators. Not all proposals are accepted.

Artists are also able to show their work on select evenings during short, informal presentations to the staff and other summer participants. We also give the option for artists to teach a morning class on the subject of their choice, which is a great chance to provide your fellow artists a hands-on approach to your practice.

DO I HAVE TO BE ONSITE FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE PROGRAM?

If accepted, you will be required to participate each day during the program for the dates indicated in your availability. We know that some people may have obligations during the summer so please make sure to indicate this on the application, but preference may be given to applicants who can ensure they will be present for the entire duration of the program. Brief time off is planned into the schedule, but is subject to the activities, events and workshops planned.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - ARTIST RESIDENCY PROGRAM

ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE ARE PROVIDED WITH THE TIME, SPACE AND FREEDOM TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP THEIR LATEST PROJECTS, MAKING FULL USE OF THE WATERMILL CENTER AS AN ARTISTIC LABORATORY.

WHAT EQUIPMENT IS ONSITE?

The Watermill Center is only able to provide modest audio/visual equipment, such as a basic sound system and projector, in addition to basic office supplies and a color printer. Please note The Watermill Center does not have on-site Tech Assistant, and you should be prepared to manage your own technical needs. If you require a certain piece of equipment during your residency, we highly recommend purchasing or renting it for the duration of your stay.

Artists are required to source all their own materials (ie: paint, canvas, etc) as it will not be provided by The Center.

HOW IS STUDIO SPACE ALLOCATED?

Space at Watermill is allocated as-needed. Artists are asked to notate in their application what type of space they require. The Watermill Center’s artist programs are communal experiences, and artists may have to share spaces. The Watermill Center staff makes all efforts to schedule residencies in a manner that reduces the stresses of space sharing.

IS THERE ANYTHING REQUIRED OF ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE?

Residents are required to participate in In Process @ The Watermill Center, which invites the community to engage with our Artists-in-Residence on select Saturday afternoons through open rehearsals, workshops, studio visits, or artist talks. In Process typically occurs midway through an residency, and is focused on giving the you the chance to share your artistic process with the local community, and get feedback on the project under development

Participation in our Education Programs is strongly encouraged, but not required.